

ER-4-7426

~~RESTRICTED~~
Security Information

21 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: State Department Working Group

REFERENCE: Memorandum for the Record, dated 9 July 1953,
subject "Conference with State Department."

1. On being appointed Personnel Director at the State Department, Mr. George Wilson invited this Agency, United States Information Agency and Foreign Operations Administration to attend periodic meetings to discuss mutual problems in the personnel field.

2. On 20 October 1953, the second of such meetings was held and Mr. Wilson apprised the group of his plans to proceed to ask for new or amended legislation which would provide for the establishment of a Foreign Affairs Service, to encompass in terms of personnel management, the overseas and domestic personnel of the State Department, (including the Foreign Service of the United States), the Foreign Operations Administration, the U. S. Information Agency, and certain other Agencies. Mr. Wilson presented those in attendance with the attached letter to Mr. Young, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, outlining his proposed method of proceeding with this plan. It will be noted that the wording "and possibly the Central Intelligence Agency" is included in the attached copy of this letter. Mr. Wilson further explained that General Smith suggested that this be cleared with CIA before forwarding to the Commission, because he, General Smith, felt that CIA would probably not concur in being joined in such legislation. Mr. Wilson indicated that, on contacting Mr. Walter Pforzheimer, he was instructed to delete any reference to CIA in this letter. Consequently, the letter was forwarded to the Commission without mention of CIA. I explained to Mr. Wilson that, while I was not authorized to commit CIA in this matter, I felt that the Agency undoubtedly would not desire to be included in any blanket legislation affecting our personnel administration. I did state, however, that we would be most happy to participate in research studies, discussions, etc., designed to aid in the drafting of this proposed legislation.

3. It is believed that this Agency would be at a great advantage if we were able to actively participate in the background studies and drafting of legislation. In this manner we would be in a position to reorganize or forestall any attempts at blanket coverage. This would also enable us to be thoroughly conversant with all legislative proposals which require this Agency to ask for exemptions.

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George E. Meloon

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